EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1643

JUN 04 2002 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

S/N 09/590,884 **PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Erika Hawkins et al.	Examiner: Mahreen F. Chaudhry
Serial No.:	09/590,884	Group Art Unit: 1643
Filed:	June 9, 2000	Docket: 341.014US1
Title:	METHOD FOR INCREASING LUMINESCENCE ASSAY SENSITIVITY	

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DO NOT ENTER 7/12/02 PG

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on November 23, 2001, please consider the following remarks and amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

This response is accompanied by a Petition, as well as the appropriate fee, to obtain a three-month extension of the period for responding to the Office action, thereby moving the deadline for response from 23 February 2001 to 23 May 2002.

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06/05/2002 MGEBREM1 00000079 09590884

02 FC:102 252.00 OP
03 FC:103 54.00 OP

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The substitute claim set is intended to reflect the addition of claims 76-78. Please add the following claims 76-78.

76.(NEW) A method for increasing the sensitivity of an assay comprising carrying out a bioluminescent reaction in the presence of an organic compound that reduces luminescence that is not dependent on the presence of an analyte by at least about 10 fold, and that reduces luminescence that is dependent on the presence of an analyte by less than about 7 fold.

77.(NEW) A method for increasing the sensitivity of an assay comprising carrying out the assay in the presence of an organic compound that reduces luminescence generated by luminogenic molecules not bound to a bioluminescent enzyme by at least about 10 fold, and that reduces the luminescence generated by luminogenic molecules bound to a bioluminescent enzyme by less than about 7 fold.

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